

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Tire Storage Warehouses

REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Storage warehouses for tires were maintained by the Ministry of Chemical Industry, but inasmuch as the rubber and tire industry first was placed under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Chemical Industry in 1952

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there

were four central storage warehouses for tires: in Prague-Strasnice, Nachod ~~/5025N-1610E/~~, Puchov ~~/4908N-1820E/~~ and Gottwaldov. These four central warehouses supplied regional warehouses which were located in most of the regions of Czechoslovakia; the regional warehouses in turn supplied consumers in their respective regions. Approximately two-thirds of the tire production in Czechoslovakia was put in storage, the rest of the production being used for new vehicles. Before a new tire could be purchased, the consumer had to turn in the old tire which was being replaced. Each regional storage warehouse for tires had a technical adviser on its staff. His function was to travel about the region and instruct consumers on the proper care and use of tires. Besides this, he was also responsible for determining which tires should be recapped or retreaded. Any complaints which consumers had on the quality of tires were also handled by him. The four central storage warehouses for tires were as follows:

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a. The first was located at the Prague-Strasnice railroad freight station, on the third floor of a three-or four-story building. The building was about 300 m. x 50-60 m., and the Ministry had 6,000 to 7,000 sq. m. of floor space for tires there. Storage facilities at this warehouse, which was rented from the Ministry of Railroads, were adequate, and no expansion was planned. Approximately 30% of all tires distributed in Czechoslovakia were handled by this warehouse. Most of the tires it received for distribution came from the Mitas Plant in Prague. Since the Mitas Plant was located near the warehouse, the tires were brought in by truck; except for those tires going to the Prague regional warehouse, all tires were shipped out by rail. Employed at this warehouse were a warehouse keeper (skladnik), his assistant and six or seven warehouse workers. Administering both this central warehouse and the Prague regional warehouse for tires was (fnu) VITOUS. (Fnu) SKOKAN was head of the Commercial Department for tires and (fnu) GOJNY was head of the Administrative Department. Prague was the only region which had an administrative staff for tires separate from the one for chemicals. Its headquarters were located at 76 Krizikova ul. and supervised both the central and regional storage warehouses for tires in the Prague Region. About 30 people comprised the administrative staff.

b. [redacted] the second central warehouse for tires was located in one of the buildings of the Rubena Plant in Nachod.

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c. The central warehouse for tires in Puchov was located in one of the buildings of the Matador tire factory. This building was a four-story structure measuring about 100 m. x 20 m.; only the fourth floor was used for tire storage, the other three being used by the factory for the storage of materials. The factory and warehouse were only about three years old and were among the most modern in Czechoslovakia. Practically all the tires were shipped out by rail on the spur track which led past the warehouses. A warehouse keeper and four or five warehouse workers were employed at the tire storage warehouse.

d. [redacted] the central storage warehouse for tires in Gottwaldov [redacted] belonged to the Ministry of Light Industry but was scheduled to be transferred to the Ministry of Chemical Industry by the end of 1952.

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Prague Region

2. The Prague Region had one regional storage warehouse for tires located in the city of Prague; there were also five small warehouses in the Region which served to help the regional warehouse in the distribution of tires. These five smaller warehouses received their tires from the Prague regional warehouse and were all under the supervision and jurisdiction of the Prague regional warehouse.

a. Located in Prague, on 76 Krizikovz ul., the Prague regional warehouse for the storage of tires was situated in an underground two-story garage. The garage measured about 80 m. x 20 m. and provided a combined storage area of 3,000 to 3,500 sq. m. All the central storage warehouses for tires, with the exception of the one in Puchov, supplied the Prague regional warehouse. All sizes of tires were stored there, and they were shipped in and out by truck. A warehouse keeper and about 10 workers were employed there. It was administered from 76 Krizikova ul.

b. The first of the five small storage warehouses belonging to the Prague regional storage warehouse for tires was located in Prague 16, on Stefanikova ul. [redacted]

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Located in a former store with about 200 sq. m. of floor space, this warehouse stored mainly passenger car tires and medium-sized truck tires. This warehouse usually supplied enterprises operated by the city of Prague. It was headed by (fnu) RALKO, who had an assistant and two warehouse workers under him.

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- c. The second of the five small warehouses was located in Prague 2, on Reznicka ul. (street number not known to me), in a former store with 150 to 200 sq. m. of floor space. Storing principally tractor tires, this warehouse supplied agricultural enterprises in Prague. It was headed by a woman who had one assistant and two warehouse workers helping her.
- d. Another small storage warehouse under the Prague regional warehouse for tires was situated in Prague 12, on 9 Italska ul. It was located in a former store and had about 150 sq. m. of floor space. Storing all sizes of tires, except tractor tires, this warehouse supplied the southern part of the city of Prague. the person in charge had an assistant and two warehouse workers under him.
- e. The fourth of these small warehouses was in Benesov, a town about 40 km. south of Prague. it was about the same size as the other small warehouses. It supplied the southern part of Prague Region, with the exception of the city of Prague.
- f. The last of these small storage warehouses was located in Mlada Boleslav /5025N-1434E7. quite small. It supplied the northern part of Prague Region, with the exception of the city of Prague.

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Brno Region

3. The Brno regional storage warehouse for tires was located in Brno, on 7 Havelka, in the ground floor of a three-story building which measured about 80 m. x 7 m., the top two floors being living quarters. All sizes of tires, from motorcycle to heavy truck and tractor tires, were stored there. Two warehouse workers were the only people employed there.

Ostrava Region

4. The Ostrava regional storage warehouse for tires was located in Paskov /4944N-1818E7. Occupying the first floor of a two-story building, this warehouse had 2,000 to 2,500 sq. m. of floor space. It was quite old but will not be abandoned, no plans for expansion. All tires were brought in and shipped out by truck. At the head of the warehouse was (fnu) FROHLICH; assisting him were three administrative employees and three or four warehouse workers.

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Liberec Region

5. Located in Liberec, on Barvirske ul. the street number was 15), the Liberec regional storage warehouse for tires had about 400 sq. m. of floor space in a building situated in a residential area. Besides a chief there were two office workers and two warehouse workers.

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Jihlava Region

6. The storage warehouse for tires for Jihlava Region was located in the railroad station of Havlickuv Brod /4937N-1535E/. About 600 sq. m. of the railroad station's storage facilities were used by the ministry for the storage of tires. [redacted] a new location was being sought for the construction of a storage warehouse for both chemicals and tires for the Jihlava Region. The tires were shipped in by rail and picked up by the consumers' trucks. [redacted] two warehouse workers were employed there [redacted]

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Pilsen Region

7. Tires for the Pilsen Region were stored in Pilsen [redacted] Consisting of about 500 sq. m. of floor space on two floors, this warehouse was considered temporary, pending the location of a more satisfactory site. A warehouse keeper and several workers were employed there.

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Karlovy Vary Region

8. Karlovy Vary Region had its tires stored in the outskirts of Karlovy Vary in part of a house with about 250 sq. m. of floor space. As soon as the storage facilities at Bohatice are expanded, the storage of tires will be transferred there.

Gottwaldov Region

9. The regional warehouse for the storage of tires in the Gottwaldov Region was in Napajedla /4910N-1732E/. This warehouse was considered temporary, pending the location of a more suitable storage warehouse for the region, preferably in Gottwaldov.
10. The regional storage warehouse for tires for the Zilina Region was in the center of the city of Zilina. Located in a small store, this warehouse had only about 150 sq. m. of floor space. Two workers were employed at the warehouse. In addition, the administrative offices for all storage warehouses in Zilina Region were located there. Zoltan FARKAS was the head of a staff of about five people.

Kosice Region

11. Kosice Region had its storage warehouse for tires in Kosice, on 6 Namesti Republiky. Consisting of only about 150 sq. m. of floor space, this warehouse was located in a small store. Although plans for the construction of a warehouse for tires were under consideration for Kosice Region [redacted] no site had been selected. Two workers were employed at the warehouse.

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Pardubice Region

12. [redacted] the warehouse was located in Pardubice, on Hlavni Trida ul. Located in what was formerly a small store, this warehouse had about 400 sq. m. of floor space. Two or three warehouse workers were employed there. The administrative offices were also located there, and the staff comprised about five people headed by (fnu) NEDELKA.

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Bratislava Region

13. Tires for Bratislava Region were stored in a warehouse in Bratislava, on 5 Bottova ul. A two-story brick building, measuring about 80 m. x 10 m., was used for the storage of tires. This warehouse also serviced the Nitra Region. (Fnu) CHMELA was in charge of the storage warehouse for tires.

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Usti nad Labem Region

14. Tires for the Usti nad Labem Region were stored in Teplice-Sanov 25X1
/5038N-1350E/ but were scheduled to be transferred to Krasne Prezno,
a suburb of Usti nad Labem, by 1 September 1952. [redacted]
[redacted] it was considered temporary until
a new location could be found. 25X1

Banska Bystrica Region

15. [redacted] Banska Bystrica Region had no storage warehouse 25X1
for tires, but use of facilities at Ulanka, which is about eight
kilometers north of Banska Bystrica was under consideration. At
Ulanka, the location of a former lumber mill, there was a building
which was used for the storage of chemicals for the region. The
basement of this building, which measured about 50 m. x 30 m.,
was to be put into use as a storage warehouse for tires.

Hradec Kralove Region

16. Hradec Kralove Region stored its tires in a regional warehouse
located in a small warehouse in Hradec Kralove, on Stalinova ul.
This warehouse is to be transferred to a new warehouse building
which is supposed to be constructed opposite the railroad station
in Slezske Predmesti, a suburb of Hradec Kralove.

Olomouc Region

17. Tires for the Olomouc Region were stored in Olomouc, on 36 Wolkerova
ul., in one of a group of buildings which formerly belonged to the
firm of Kosmos, a margarine factory. The Ministry of Chemical
Industry was attempting to acquire all the buildings for
storing both tires and chemicals. The administrative offices for
the region were located at the tire storage warehouse; heading an
administrative staff of four was (fnu) STEPANEK.

Ceske Budovice Region

18. The tire storage warehouse for Ceske Budovice Region was located 25X1
in Ceske Budovice [redacted] It
had 300-400 sq. m. of floor space in the basement of an apartment
house. It was considered temporary until a new warehouse could be
located. A warehouse keeper and two warehouse workers were
employed there.

Nitra Region

19. Nitra Region had no storage warehouse for tires and was supplied
by the warehouse in Bratislava Region.

Preshov Region

20. No storage warehouse for tires was located in Preshov Region.
This region was supplied by the warehouse in Kosice Region.

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